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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Settlement Thoughts

The proposed settlement does not go far enough. I was relieved to hear that the school equipment portion of the settlement was rejected. It was a mockery of the judicial system. In fact, Microsoft is a monopoly, so therefore their products should be EXCLUDED from the equipment purchase list. The money from Microsoft should go into a fund that can be drawn on against a list of specific vendors. IE: Linux, Macintosh, etc. Non-Microsoft related. PC Vendors like Dell, Gateway, HP, and Compaq could have their products purchased with a Linux operating system (ONLY) installed. No Microsoft products may be present at the point of sale. Schools that purchase the equipment must keep the systems as is or upgrade to new versions of Linux. they must also institute Linux training programs for students and teachers. In addition, they need to teach students how to program in the environment to help it expand further. Some of the fund should also be used for the encouragement of Open Source projects in the form of grants and research projects. If they have caused damages, why would you ever reward them with additional sales? That would be like stealing a bunch of cars - I get caught - proven guilty - but you reward me with a car instead of sending me to jail. Any settlement which is passed now is a complete joke. Microsoft knows this applies to Windows 98 only. They are already taking advantage of consumers and vendors with Windows xp. The settlement should be included to have Windows XP, and an other operating system needs to be installed as well. (Red Hat Linux or a derivative) The company really should have been broken into 3 parts. Internet which includes their net products, Internet Explorer, and all online services (Hotmail, and MSN), Applications (like Office, and other programming languages), and finally the core OS which would exclude Internet Explorer as being part of the OS. It could be included on the drive, but not integrated with the operating system. Microsoft is already getting additional funding based on their new pricing strategy for Windows XP. Any monetary loss is going to be passed on to the general public. They should have set pricing for 10 years for all vendors at about \$60 per licence, and \$99 for the full version for consumers. The upgrade would be \$75. FIXED! Why should the consumer - whom Microsoft hurt in the first place - have to pay for their legal problems? Microsoft has been given entirely too much latitude in this case. They are pushing the DOJ and the legal system around. They are using money and political contributions to change the outcome of this settlement. It is obvious to the american public, and all other nations of the world. You are sending the message that it is ok to rip consumers off if you have enough money.

In addition, the settlement should include the open release of all rights to OpenGL which they bought from SGI. Here is another example of Microsoft trying to kill off open source projects. They are trying to force everyone to use direct 3D and the MS platform since it is not available on other platforms.

All Microsoft transactions must be a matter of open discussion from now on. There must be full disclosure of all purchases of assets, investments, and intellectual agreements to the general public for the next 10 years. All transactions must pass the scrutiny of the general public as well as a judge and the SEC.

Microsoft needs to be forced to compete at the OS level again. They need to be forced to make their product better - not just purchase another company. There need to be strict guideline put in place for the acquisition of other companies.

The entire API must be published, and changes to the API need to be documented for 10 years. Any changes made without prior notice to third party vendors is a violation of the settlement agreement. This would prevent Microsoft from randomly changing the API and not telling anyone but their close vendors about the changes. It would prevent Microsoft from "Breaking" other companies products strictly because they did not want to compete or were ahead in technology.

Microsoft must be forced to port office to the Macintosh and Linux platforms for the next 10 years. They must remain parallel with the PC version with release dates within 30 days of the PC version. If the Macintosh and Linux version are not updated, Microsoft must remove all of their Office products from the shelves within 3 days or be fined \$500,000 a day until compliance is met. Microsoft uses their office products as a tool to manipulate other companies and platforms.

All investments in other companies and/or platforms must be sold off with the proceeds from the sale of stock or ownership shares being contributed to the educational fund outlined in the current settlement. This money would be in addition to the current settlement amount that excludes Microsoft property from being sold.